

**REMARKS**

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

The Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interviews of December 4, December 5, and December 11, 2003. As set forth in an accompanying Applicants Interview Summary, agreement was reached that claim 7 would be patentable if the subject matter of claim 8 were to be added to it.

In accordance with the agreement, the Applicants have amended claim 7 to include the subject matter of claim 8. In accordance with this amendment, claims 11 and 12 have been canceled. Thus, claims 7, 9-10, and 13 are pending and are believed to be in allowable condition.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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H-874-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

T. MATSUO et al

Serial No. 10/029,260

Group Art Unit: 1723

Filed: December 28, 2001

Examiner: J.W. Drodge

For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING RADIOACTIVE  
LIQUID WASTES CONTAINING SURFACE ACTIVE AGENTS

APPLICANTS INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 24, 2003

Sir:

Telephone interviews were held on December 4, December 5, and December 11, 2003, between Examiner Drodge and the Applicants' representative Mr. Daniel J. Stanger.

During the December 12 interview, the Examiner advanced the opinion that claim 7 remained unpatentable in view of the applied prior art, but that claim 7 would be allowable if the subject matter of claim 8 were added to claim 7.

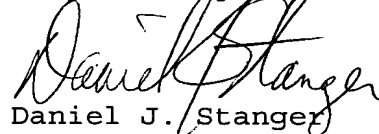
On December 5, the Applicants' representative informed Examiner Drodge that the Applicants had not responded to the request for authorization to make the proposed amendment. The Examiner stated that an Advisory Action would be mailed.

On December 11, the Applicants' representative informed the Examiner that the Applicants had forwarded their authorization to add the subject matter of claim 8 into claim

7, with minor modifications to the amending language. The Examiner expressed the opinion that the proposed modification would raise new issues and be subject to non entry because of the after-final status of the application. The Examiner reiterated that the proposal to place claim 7 into condition for allowance was contingent on the current subject matter of claim 8 being added thereto.

Accompanying this Summary is a Reply including the amendments suggested by the Examiner. The Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interviews, and for the assistance in placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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